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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-05 EB-07 AGR-05 COME-00

TRSE-00 SR-02 ORM-01 /094 W
---------- 023715
R 241040Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0988
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN
USDOCOSOUTH
USCINCEUR
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0332

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CY TU
SUBJ: VISIT TO TURKISH OCCUPIED AREA

A. DURING VISIT TO TURKISH-OCCUPIED AREA BY EUR/SE DIRECTOR EAGLETON AND EMBOFF JANUARY 23 FOLLOWING ITEMS OF INTEREST WERE NOTED:

1. LACK OF MILITARY PRESENCE. IT WAS STRIKING HOW FEW MAINLAND SOLDIERS WERE ENCOUNTERED DURING EXTENSIVE TOUR OF NORTHERN CYPRUS. NUMBERS WERE FAR DOWN FROM PREVIOUS TRIPS. ESCORT OFFICER CONFIRMED BLUE BERETS WILL BE TRANSFERRED BACK TO MAIN-LAND "BY END OF NEXT WEEK".

2. KRINI AIRPORT. WORK HAS ACCELERATED ON EXTENDING EAST-WEST RUNWAY AT KRINI, NEAR BOGHAZ PASS. FOUR OR FIVE LARGE EARTH-
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MOVING MACHINES WERE BEING EMPLOYED, WITH NUMEROUS WORKERS. MAIN-

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LAND MILITARY ESCORT OFFICER TOLD US THAT DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED UTILIZE KRINI INSTEAD OF TIMBOU FOR CIVILIAN FLIGHTS. COMPLETION APPEARS TO BE SEVERAL MONTHS AWAY.

3. BYPASS ROADS. TURKS HAVE COMPLETED TWO-LANE BYPASS ROADS FROM GEUNYELI TO AYIOS VASSILIOS IN WEST AND FROM ORTAKOY TO NEAR MIA MILEA IN EAST. WORK UNDERWAY TO LINK TWO ROADS.

4. RESETTLEMENT OF SOUTHERN TURKS. RESETTLEMENT EFFORTS STILL LIMITED TO AREA NORTH OF NEW FAMAGUSTA ROAD. NONE OF VILLAGES ON MAIN HIGHWAY HAD MORE THAN TOKEN NUMBER TURKS ESTABLISHED. IN CONTRAST, LEFKONIKO-GYPSOS-TRIKOMO ROAD NOW HEAVILY POPULATED. WE WERE TOLD TURKS EVACUATED FROM PARAMALI WILL BE RETURNED TO ISLAND IN VILLAGE GROUPS AND THAT SPECIFIC VILLAGES IN NORTH HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR THEM.

5. FAMAGUSTA. FAMAGUSTA NEW CITY REMAINS VIRTUALLY UNTOUCHED WITH LITTLE APPARENT LOOTING. MILITARY PATROLS HEAVY; CIVILIANS NOT PERMITTED IN FORMER GREEK AREA. ONE BEACHFRONT HOTEL, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN REOPENED AS OFFICERS' CLUB. SEVERAL TURKISH CYPRIOT POLICEMEN WERE OBSERVED ASSISTING MAINLAND SOLDIERS IN PATROLLING FAMAGUSTA. SWEDISH UN TROOPS REMAIN IN PLACE.

6. AGRICULTURE. WHEAT AND BARLEY CROPS IN MESAORIA LOOKED SURPRISINGLY GOOD GIVEN DIFFICULTY ATA HAS HAD IN ENERGIZING TURKISH CYPRIOTS TO WORK. ROUGHLY 50 PERCENT OS FIELDS ALONG ROUTE TRAVELLED HAVE BEEN PLANTED AND GERMINATION APPEARED HEALTHY. (FALLOW FARMING TECHNIQUE IS USED IN MESAORIA.) THIS WAS TRUE EVEN FOR FIELDS SOUTH OF MAIN FAMAGUSTA HIGHWAY WHERE NO TURKISH CYPRIOTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED.

B. COMMENT: PATTERN OF ACTIVITY OBSERVED IS CONSISTENT WITH AN EVENTUAL TURKISH AREA RUNNING FROM MORPHOU TO NICOSIA AND ON TO FAMAGUSTA, WITH EASTERN BOUNDARY NORTH OF MAIN HIGHWAY. ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN WEST MAY INDICATE THAT PORTION OF AREA AROUND MORPHOU ALSO IS NEGOTIABLE. FACT THAT EAGLETON AND EMBOFF WERE NOT PERMITTED VISIT MYRTOU AREA AND REGION AROUND KYTHREA MAY INDICATE TROOPS CONCENTRATED THERE. RESETTLEMENT OF PARAMALI REFUGEES SHOULD BE INDICATOR OF TURKISH INTENTIONS RE TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS.
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CRAWFORD

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